

REMARKS

The non-final Office Action dated 2 April 2008 has been received and its contents carefully studied. Claims 1-16 stand rejected. The independent claims are method claim 1, system claim 13, and terminal claim 15. New independent claim 18 is a means-plus-function claim corresponding to non-means-plus-function claim 15. All of the present amendments are fully supported by the specification as originally filed, and introduce no new matter.

Rejections of Claim 12 Under 35 USC §§ 112 and 101

Claim 12 is now amended, and placed in independent form. This amendment is supported at least by the paragraph beginning at the bottom of page 7 of the present application as originally filed.

The Present Amended Independent Claims Are Not Anticipated by the *Du* Reference

The independent claims 1, 13, and 15 stand rejected as anticipated by *Du et al* (U.S. Patent No. 6,823,357).

The non-final Office Action notes at page 4, second full paragraph that several limitations in the original claims of the present application contained limitations that were presented in the alternative (“or”). The present independent claims are now amended to remove the word “or” so that the limitations are no longer presented in the alternative. Thus, amended claim 1 now claims receiving a notification about an already-triggered alarm for an ongoing calendar event if such an alarm was already previously triggered (e.g. while the user was unavailable), ***plus*** otherwise receiving a notification that no alarms were previously triggered for a currently ongoing calendar event.

Even in the latter case (i.e. no alarms were previously triggered for a currently ongoing calendar event), it is possible that an alarm was previously triggered for a calendar event that (at the time when the user accesses the system) is a future calendar event such as an imminent calendar event. New claim 17 clarifies that information about that previously-triggered alarm about a future

event can be included in the notification. Dependent claim 3 of the present application additionally discloses subsequent notification when alarms are triggered, if the user remains available.

The *Du* reference essentially discloses two ideas, as described in the Abstract of *Du*. First, *Du* discloses that subscribers can automatically get emails about types of calendar events that the subscriber is interested in. Second, *Du* also discloses that a subscriber's calendar can be automatically updated about such calendar events. The email notifications and the automatic updating can both be used for a particular subscriber, according to *Du*.

The "update message signal" of *Du* provides a way for additional event information to be automatically added to a user's calendar. The "update message signal" of *Du* contains instructions to "update the personal calendars" of an event publisher's automatic subscribers (see column 3, lines 11-21; column 4, lines 30-31). *Du* also suggests providing additional email notifications, even if an unavailable user will not read the e-mail notifications until after the calendar event has already occurred (column 3, lines 17-19).

This calendar-updating process of *Du* is automatic, and does not require or depend upon simultaneous user access. Therefore, the calendar-updating process of *Du* does not anticipate the present claimed invention, which involves determining what event notifications have been sent prior to accessing the system.

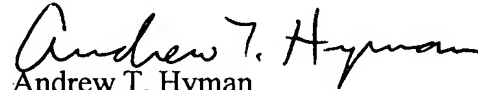
The e-mail notification process of *Du* is very cumbersome. Unlike *Du*, the present claimed invention notifies a user who has accessed the system (i.e. who is currently available) about currently ongoing or future calendar events, and does not notify the user about calendar events that have already passed by the time the user accesses the system.

CONCLUSION

It is earnestly requested that the application be reconsidered, and that the amended independent claims (which are similar to each other) be allowed, as well as the claims depending therefrom. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner please contact Applicant's attorney by telephone, if doing so might facilitate or expedite examination of the present application. It is

submitted that early passage of the present claims to issuance would be appropriate according to the relevant statutes and regulations, in view of the novel and useful invention claimed by the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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